



## Idaho Commission for Libraries

Winter 2011



### BTOP Budget

Federal funds: \$1,907,531

Matching funds: 942,815\*

Total budget: \$2,850,346

\*Over 20% project match provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, augmented with in-kind and resource contributions from ICfL and key partners, including the Idaho Department of Labor, Idaho Public Television, and Idaho Professional-Technical Education.

### BTOP Award Period

August 2010 to July 2012

For more information about the BTOP project "online @ your library" visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/online>

"online @ your library" connects people in rural areas with the resources they need for developing job skills, seeking employment, and accessing many other government and education services. The success of this program is critical for Idaho's future."

- Idaho Department of Labor Director Roger B. Madsen



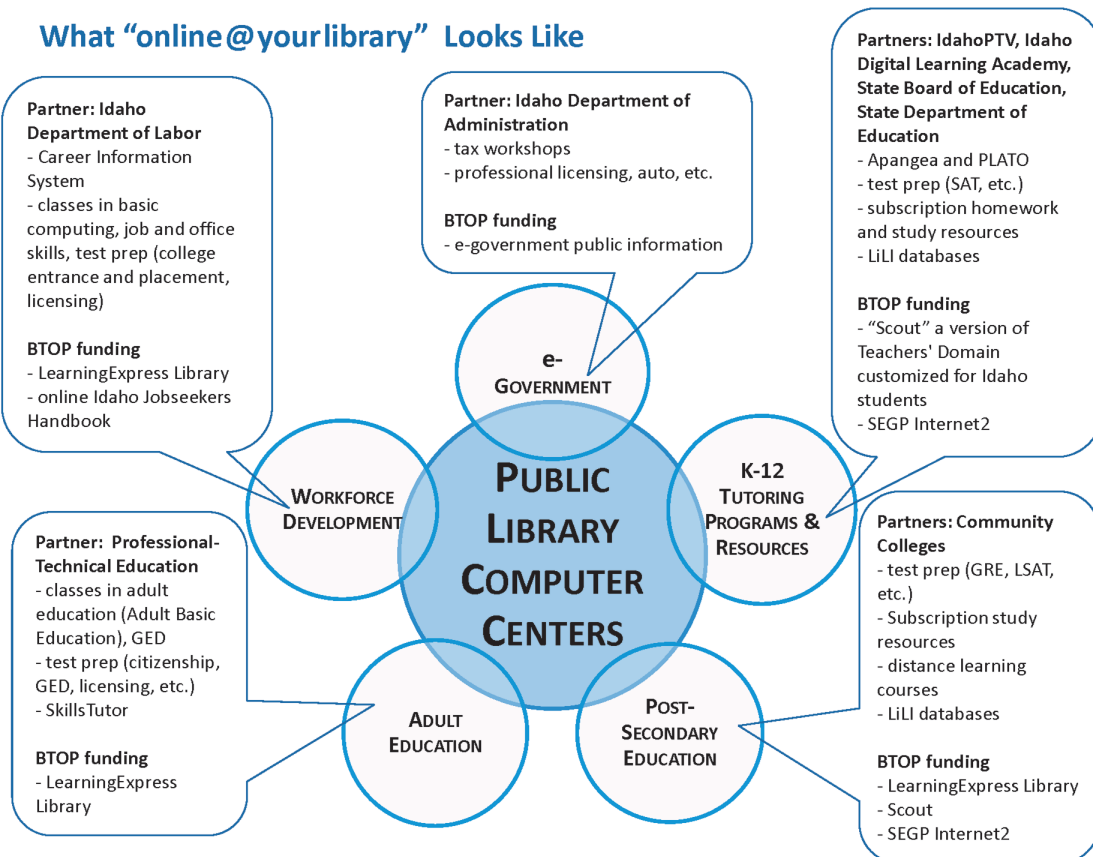
# online @ your library®

## Idaho Public Libraries Public Computer Center BTOP Project

The Idaho Commission for Libraries received a federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) award in the Public Computer Center category from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

Over 69% of public libraries in Idaho report that they are the only free public Internet access point in their communities. With 141 locations in Idaho, public libraries as public computer centers are in a unique position to extend the reach of agencies providing services in workforce development, education, and e-government.

### What "online@yourlibrary" Looks Like





## What the BTOP grant covers

- Cost of expanding broadband connectivity in at least 55 public libraries
- Cost of expanded connectivity and bandwidth during the two-year grant period for these public libraries
- Cost of new computers for public access computing in these public libraries
- New statewide online resources:
  - LearningExpress Library
  - Scout (Teachers' Domain for library use)
  - Internet2 SEGP
  - Idaho Jobseekers Handbook
- Direct cost of delivering training to public library staff
- Grant project management

## Project Partners

- Department of Labor
- Idaho Public Television
- Professional-Technical Education
- State Board of Education
- State Department of Education
- Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON)
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- National Telecommunications and Information Admin.



## BTOP Project Objectives

- Expand the scope and reach of services in education, workforce development, and e-government to all Idahoans.
- Expand access to the Internet and provide free access to informal learning resources for children, job skills and adult basic education for the unemployed, and e-government services for all Idaho residents.

## Determining participating libraries

### Connectivity speed

Low connectivity speed is the first factor in defining the candidate pool for the computer and connectivity upgrades. Public libraries that have current connectivity of 4 Mbps or less are included.

### Demographic criteria

Public libraries that serve higher percentages of (BTOP-defined) "vulnerable populations" are included.

## Expectations

### The Commission and BTOP project partners will:

- coordinate to leverage existing state online resources related to the needs of the under-employed and students.
- deliver training to public library staff on E-Rate, public computer center maintenance, and online services.
- coordinate public information about public access computing in libraries, BTOP project online services, and workshops in public library computer centers.

IdahoPTV will produce and deliver statewide public information delivered as broadcast spots and <http://IdahoPTV.org> web content, targeting kids and parents as well as adult learners and workers.

## BTOP Project Strategies

- Expand broadband capacity in 40% of Idaho's least connected public libraries.
- Upgrade public computing resources in those libraries.
- Expand online resources statewide.
- Provide library-based workshops centered around online resources.
- Publicize online library resources and free public access at the library.
- Ensure sustainability.

## Sustainability

After review of the RFPs from Internet and telecommunications providers, the projected costs and abilities of the candidate libraries to sustain those costs when the BTOP project is complete will provide the final filter for determining the participating libraries.

### Participating public libraries will:

- expand their Internet connectivity bandwidth and the number of computers available to the public.
- host workshops in partnership with the Regional ABE Center and the Idaho Department of Labor, introducing adults to online resources.
- provide staff who are familiar with Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) portal online resources and trained to maintain their public computing centers.
- consider E-Rate funding as a strategy for sustaining their public computing centers.

## New Online Resources Available through the LiLI Portal

### LearningExpress Library

#### Available Now

LearningExpress Library provides over 800 up-to-date test-preparation and skill-building resources, helping both students and adults prepare for a wide range of academic and career-oriented exams as well as improve basic skills in reading, writing, and math. In addition, job-skills tutorials are available to assist in creating a great resume, honing interviewing techniques, and improving business communications.

Patrons also have the option of selecting from more than 150 e-book titles to help learners of all ages prepare for success.

The platform includes self-paced study, instant scoring, and diagnostic feedback and can be accessed from any computer that has an Internet connection.

### How to Access LearningExpress Library

All users must be authenticated as Idaho residents; accessing LearningExpress Library through the LiLI Portal at <http://lili.org> accomplishes this.

Users accessing LearningExpress Library for the first time will need to create a personal login and password. That personal login can be used when accessing LearningExpress Library from any web-accessible computer.

**@online  
@your library®**

Bringing new databases and online educational services to Idahoans

Most resources are available to all Idaho residents and can be accessed through the LiLI portal at <http://lili.org/>.



LiLI Portal at <http://lili.org/>

**ICfL** Idaho Commission for Libraries



## @online your library®

Bringing new databases and  
online educational services  
to Idahoans



### ICfL Mission

The Idaho Commission for  
Libraries assists libraries to  
build the capacity to better  
serve their clientele.

### ICfL Board of Commissioners

Jim Fullerton  
John Held  
Bruce Noble  
Larry Weeks  
Sara Staub

### State Librarian Ann Joslin

325 West State Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
208-334-2150  
800-458-3271  
<http://libraries.idaho.gov>



## Student Tutorials and Programs Available through the LiLI Portal

### **"Scout" (a version of Teachers' Domain customized for Idaho students)**

*Coming in Summer 2011*

This digital media service for student use  
from Idaho Public Television and WGBH  
Boston will offer thousands of media  
resources for student use that support  
state and national education standards.  
In addition to including award winning  
resources from NOVA, Frontline,  
American Experience, and other national  
productions, Idaho Public Television is  
customizing this service with Idaho  
resources, such as its award-winning  
fourth grade history series; its science  
program for elementary students,  
Dialogue for Kids; and catalogued video  
segments highlighting Idaho's natural  
resources and history.



### **Apangea Learning's Apangea Math: Grades 4-8, Algebra 1, and Geometry** *Available Now*

Apangea Math—an online, supplemental  
math tutoring program—provides  
students with instruction, access to live  
certified teachers, and a motivation  
program with rewards for working on  
math problems.

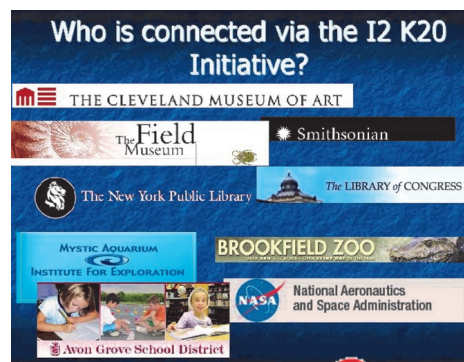
Previously, only schools assigned  
passwords to students. Since November  
2010, staff members at public libraries  
have the ability to create student accounts  
and assign passwords. Apangea Math can  
be accessed from school, home, or public  
library.



### **Internet2 resources for libraries via Idaho Regional Optical Network (IRON)**

*Coming in Summer 2011*

Internet2 offers a unique collection of  
online museums, field-trips, and other  
resources available only through  
libraries and K-12 institutions.



### **PLATO Learning** *Available Now*

PLATO Learning provides self-paced  
intervention and remedial solutions  
for 9–12 students in language arts,  
mathematics, and reading curriculum  
aligned to the Idaho Achievement  
Standards and Idaho Student  
Achievement Test (ISAT). A school-  
assigned password is required to use  
PLATO at the public library.

Apangea Math and PLATO are  
available for Idaho students through a  
partnership with Idaho State  
Department of Education.

